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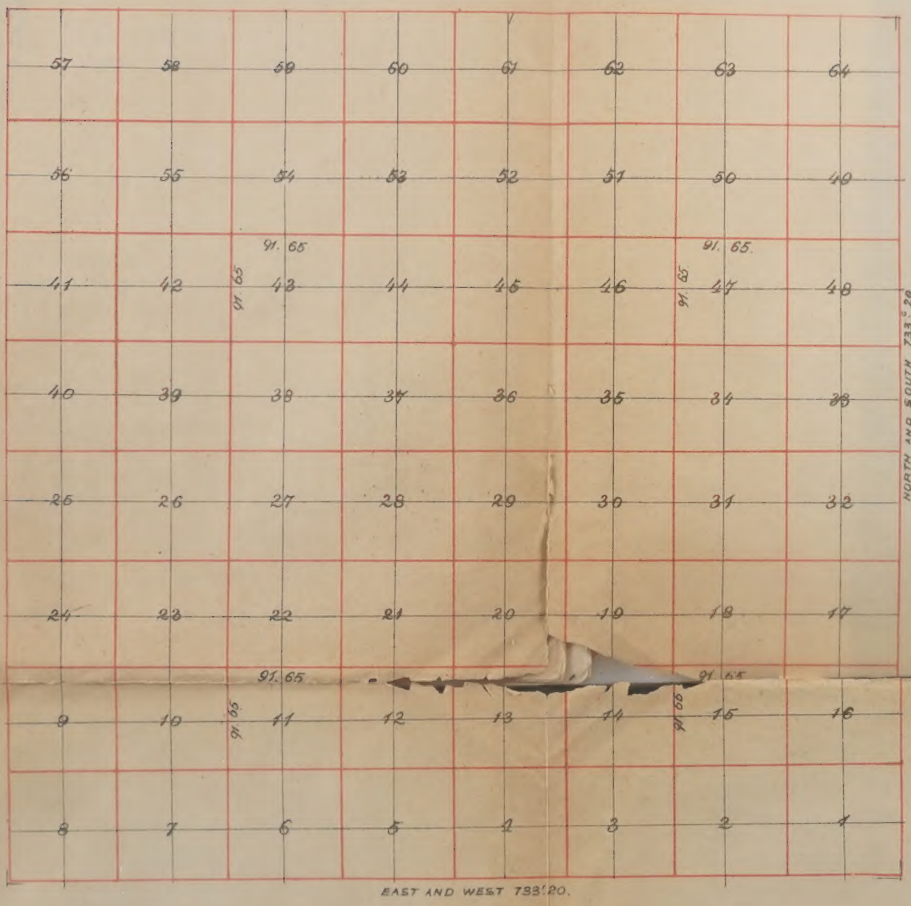
PLAN
OF
TOWNSHIP
IN
PROPOSED SYSTEM
OF
PUBLIC SURVEYS
Red River Territory



Memoranda

The Township is divided into 64 Squares of 800 Acres each exclusive of allowance for Road which is five per cent This five per cent is added into the Section as laid out upon the ground.

The Sections number consecutively commencing in S.E and ending in N.E Corners of Townships.

The area of the whole Township including five per cent for road 53760 acres

Dunland Lafrenam & Co. Montreal.

Fort Garry
Aug. 28th 1869
(signed) L. S. Dennis

MAP

ON MERCATOR'S PROJECTION,

OF PART OF THE N.W. TERRITORY;

Illustrating the proposed System

of

PUBLIC SURVEYS.

Rough Diagram, Based on Hinds Map intended to illustrate Report on Townships Surveys & Red River Territory.

Ottawa Febr 12 1870 (signed) Dr Stoughton Dennis
R.S.S.

Note. It will be seen that the Townships number North from the 49th Paralld and lie in ranges East and West of the Winnipeg Meridian

signed J. S. D.

Scale of 6 Miles to the Inch.

SKETCH OF TOWNSHIPS
SHEWING NUMBERING OF SECTIONS

57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64
56	55	54	53	52	51	50	49
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
40	39	38	37	36	35	34	33
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

Memo.
Section contains 800 Acres each with five per cent additional thrown in for Roads.
signed J S D

Burland Lithographic Co.

RETURN

To an Address of the HOUSE OF COMMONS, dated 23rd February, 1870, for Copies of Instructions to Surveyors sent to North-West Territory, and Statement shewing the number of men employed, and the salaries to be paid; also Copies of all Orders in Council relating to such Surveys and Reports of Surveyors employed, with Copies of all documents relative thereto.

By command,

J. C. AIKINS,

Secretary of State.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
Ottawa, 24th March, 1870.

(No. 4,852.) OTTAWA, July 10th, 1869.

SIR,—Referring to the subject discussed at our interview yesterday, I now request you to proceed, without delay, to Fort Garry, Red River, for the purpose, as explained to you, of selecting the most suitable localities for the survey of Townships for immediate settlement.

You will confer with Governor McTavish, of the Hudson's Bay Company, who is able, and will no doubt be glad to give you advice and assistance in the performance of this important duty. You will also confer and advise with Mr. Snow, Superintendent of the Fort Garry and Lake of the Woods Road, especially as to the character of the country about Oak Point, and its adaptability for immediate settlement. Mr. Snow will be instructed to assist you, and to place at your disposal, if you should require them, any astronomical or other instruments belonging to this Department which are now in his charge.

You will report to this Department the plan of survey you propose to adopt (with a rough map) as soon as you shall have determined upon it; but, in the meantime, until you have received notice of its approval or modification, you will proceed with such surveying operations at Oak Point, and the vicinity of Red River, as may appear to you to be necessary in any event.

The American system of survey is that which appears best suited to the country, except as to the area of the section. The first emigrants, and the most desirable, will probably go from Canada, and it will, therefore, be advisable to offer them lots of a size to which they have been accustomed. This will require you to make the section 800 acres instead of 640, as on the American plan; there should also be an allowance or excess sufficient for public roads.

As soon as the survey of a Township is completed, a copy of the plan should be lodged with the Governor or other Chief Officer of the Hudson's Bay Company, in order that the opportunity may be given to the Company to ascertain the lots or sections which, under the terms of the agreement with them, will become their property.

You will consider yourself an employee of the Department, and on a temporary service only. Your remuneration will be the same as that allowed to Mr. Snow. Your drafts upon the Department for necessary expenditure will be duly honored. You will be expected to observe strict economy in the execution of the service entrusted to you.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant.
(Signed,) WM. McDOUGALL,
Minister, Public Works.

Lieut.-Col. Dennis,
P. L. S., &c.,
Toronto.

(No. 7,369.)

TORONTO, 13th July, 1869.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, containing instructions for my guidance in discharge of the duty which has been entrusted to me at the Red River Settlement.

Appreciating as I do the honor of having been selected for this important service, and fully aware of the responsibility it involves, I shall not fail to apply all the energy and experience I possess towards a successful result.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed,) J. S. DENNIS.

The Honorable Wm. McDougall, C. B.,
Minister of Public Works,
Ottawa.

(No. 7,493.)

TORONTO, 26th July, 1869.

SIR,—I have the honor to enclose herewith the accounts in duplicate for instruments and necessary articles purchased by me here for use in connection with the operations about to be conducted at Red River.

I have made no unnecessary purchases, at the same time, I have not neglected anything to place me in a position properly to undertake and carry out the responsible duty with which I have been entrusted.

I have caused an inventory to be made from the accounts, and will take upon myself to see that the instruments and other articles are used strictly in the Government service, and under my own direction.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed,) J. S. DENNIS,
P. L. S. in charge.

The Honorable W. McDougall, C. B.,
Minister of Public Works,
Ottawa.

(No. 7,989.)

TORONTO, 17th July, 1869.

SIR,—I find that the instruments, purchased by Mr. Snow from Mr. Potter, were for the purpose of noting atmospheric phenomena exclusively, and I write to ask your authority to buy some instruments which will be required in connection with the *surveys* of the Red River Territory.

The Deputy Surveyors, who may be employed at any time, will be expected each to provide himself with a good Theodolite or Transit. It would be necessary, however, to have a set of instruments there which would remain the property of the Government, of which I would have the Theodolite or Transit of such character that it would be thoroughly reliable in fixing the Meridianal and Base lines, which, in all probability, will govern the system of future surveys in that country.

Mr. Potter has just such an instrument, an *Altitude and Algimuth Transit Theodolite*, for sale at the present time. It was imported by the late Mr. Hawkins, P.L.S., for effecting astronomical observations, and cost $300. It was in an observatory nearly all the time he had it, and, not having been used since, is in perfect condition. It can be bought now for say $125, perhaps less, and I would strongly recommend its being secured.

There would require to be provided—

1. The Instruments mentioned,.....	say $125	
2. An artificial horizon	" 25	
3. A good Level.....	80	
4. A good Field Glass	25	
	—— say $255	
5. Supply of Drawing Instruments, Protractor, Scales, Rules, &c.		Cost of these comparatively trivial.
6. Box of Colors.....		
7. Supply of Drawing and Tracing Paper and some Stationery		
8. Nautical Almanac and Tables		
9. One small Seat for self.....		

All of the above are essential and necessary to be provided, and I would see that they were taken proper care of as belonging to the Government.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(Signed,) J. S. DENNIS.

The Honorable Wm. McDougall, C.B.,
Minister of Public Works,
Ottawa.

No. 7,676.)

ST. CLOUD, 6th August, 1869.

SIR,—I have the honor to report my arrival at this place on my way to Fort Garry. It was intended that my party should consist of Mr. McGrath, P.L.S., of Ottawa, Mr. Hart, P.L.S., of Brantford, and myself; but the former gentleman, having been taken ill, was unable to join me at Toronto, on the 27th ultimo, as previously arranged, and I was, therefore, obliged to telegraph Mr. Whitcher to have him sent on after me to St. Paul, or, I suggested that he might come through by the Lake Superior route with the Government party, which it was thought might leave Toronto about the 6th or 8th of the present month.

I was joined, however, previous to leaving Toronto by some five gentlemen who had obtained permission to accompany my party through to Fort Garry, paying their own expenses, and they are now with me, making up seven in all.

We arrived in St. Paul on Sunday last.

Some three days were occupied in buying teams and outfit for the forward journey, which I found could be obtained there more advantageously than at this place. To enable me to do this, I drew upon you through the Marine Bank, on the second instant, for one thousand dollars.

I spent some little time also with Mr. Davidson, Surveyor General of Minnesota, who very kindly afforded me every information as to the American system of survey of the public lands.

Having bought two teams and supplies to carry us through to Red River, the same were started from St. Paul for this place on Wednesday at noon, and arrived about an hour ago. I came ahead by the rail, which terminates here, in order to get any further information necessary for the forward journey, which we shall commence to-morrow morning. I look forward to driving through in fifteen days.

I received every attention from Mr. Kiltson, of St. Paul, and from Mr. Burbank, of this place. Both gentlemen tell me we shall probably not lose anything on the teams and waggons in selling them again at Red River. Should there, however, be any loss the same will be borne *pro rata* by all members of the party, so that I shall be able to refund the Government within a small amount of the sum invested on the outfit.

This will duly appear in my accounts.

Not hearing at St. Paul, as expected, of the intended movements of Mr. McGrath, I telegraphed from there through Mr. Whitcher, and on my arrival here received a reply to the effect that Mr. McGrath *would not be able to come at all.*

This has proved a disappointment, and may interfere somewhat with the operations I had proposed to go on with on my arrival at Red River.

Under the circumstances, as I fear this letter may not arrive at Ottawa before you will probably have left for Fort Garry, *vid* Lake Superior, I have written from here, taking upon myself to request Mr. Webb, P.L.S., of Brighton, in whom I have every confidence, and who has expressed a great desire to be employed at Red River, to join me at Fort Garry, without unnecessary delay.

I have instructed Mr. Webb to call upon Mr. Burbank, of this place, with whom I have arranged as to his being sent on, and anticipate that he will have little or no difficulty as a train of carts is expected to leave here for Red River shortly after the time when he will probably arrive.

I hope this step may meet with your approval.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed,) J. S. Dennis, P.L.S.

The Honorable Wm. McDougall, C.B.,
Minister of Public Works,
Ottawa.

(No. 5,175.)

Ottawa, August 14th, 1869.

Memorandum.—The undersigned has the honor to request that a further sum of $20,000.00, be placed at his disposal, to meet expenditure in connection with the surveys of the roads between Lake Superior and Red River.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed,) Minister of Public Works.

(No. 7,988.)

RED RIVER SETTLEMENT, August 21st, 1869.

SIR,—I have the honor to report to you that, in company with Dr. Shultz, I arrived at this settlement yesterday, about 2 o'clock, p.m., having been somewhat delayed by heavy rain storms, which occurred on the 15th and 16th instant.

I expect the rest of my party, with the instruments, &c., about Tuesday next. In the meantime, I have commenced arrangements so as to prosecute the surveys without delay. Houses are very scarce and difficult to be obtained, but through the kindness of Drs. Shultz and Bown, who have shewn me every attention, I have succeeded in getting part of a building for an office, and have a carpenter at work making some drawing tables, &c.

Day after to-morrow (Monday), I shall visit Oak Point, and call upon Mr. Snow, after spending a day or two there, I shall return and go first to Prairie Portage, and follow up by examining the country in the immediate vicinity of this settlement, I shall then be in a position to forward to you a sketch for the first farm surveys, based upon a general system, which will be at the same time submitted for your consideration.

Governor McTavish, on whom I called to-day, shewed every disposition to further the objects of my mission.

With regard to the records of lands granted by the Company, he said he hardly felt justified in giving them fully over to me, but I should have full access to them for the purpose of obtaining copies. I shall, therefore, take immediate steps to have them copied. I regret to say that there exists great confusion and irregularity in the surveys and descriptions of these grants, and much care and skill will be required in reconciling difficulties in the way of clashing descriptions, and disputed occupation of lands.

I propose, with your approval, as regards these particular lands,—

First. To obtain an accurate survey and map thereof;

Second. Upon these, to endeavour, as far as possible, to reconcile the facts on the ground, with the lots as described in the grant, and having done so, mark the boundaries definitely, and have the survey and map confirmed by an Act of the Legislature.

It will probably be necessary, in many instances, to compensate parties for deficiencies of area, which may be done by giving them a piece of land in rear.

I find that a considerable degree of irritation exists among the native population in view of surveys and settlements being made without the Indian title having been first extinguished.

You will, no doubt, have become aware that the half-breeds lately, in a public meeting, called the Company here to account in the matter of the money paid for the transfer to Canada.

Whatever may have been the views of the Government as to the character of the title to be conveyed by the deed of transfer, whether the expense may or may not be fairly chargeable to the Company, I am satisfied that the Government will, in the first place, have to undertake and effect the extinction of the Indian title.

This question must be regarded as of the very greatest importance.

In connection therewith, I would reiterate to you my conviction, as expressed while at Ottawa, that no time should be lost. The necessity for prompt action is more apparent to me now than it seemed even then.

Supposing the transfer from the Company to have been complete, it is possible that the object may be carried out yet, this fall.

There can be no question as to the prejudicial effects in retarding the settlement of the country, should the half-breeds and Indians assume a position of hostility to any extent whatever, towards the incoming settlers, or towards the Government.

The difficulties of the position may be much enhanced by giving the discontented parties the winter to brood over, and to concert measures in opposition to the views of the Government.

In the meantime, the French half-breeds, who constitute about one-fourth or one-

fifth (say 3,000 souls), of the settlement, are likely to prove a turbulent element. This class have gone so far as to threaten violence should surveys be attempted to be made.

I shall call to-day on the dignitaries of the Roman Catholic Church, and, explaining the objects which the Government wish at present to carry out, request that they will in turn explain the matter to their people.

The harvest, I am glad to say, promises to be very fine. Barley has been gathered, and the cutting of wheat is being commenced. The yield will be very great. It is estimated by reliable Canadian settlers, with whom I have to-day conversed, that the average yield in the settlement will be on the whole 30 bushels per acre, and that one third of the area under wheat crop, will average over 40 bushels to the acre.

I have had fields, now covered with magnificent crops of wheat, pointed out to me as having been cropped every year from 20 to 30 years back, without returning to the soil anything whatever in the shape of manure.

The soil of the Red River valley is of unparalleled fertility.

What I have so far seen of the country impresses me most favorably with it.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed,) J. S. Dennis.

The Honorable Wm. McDougall, C.B.,
Minister of Public Works,
Ottawa.

(No. 8,003.)

Copy *of a Report of a Committee of the Honorable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General in Council on the 20th August, 1869.*

On a memorandum, dated 14th August, 1869, from the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, the Committee advise, in accordance with the request therein, that a further sum of Twenty thousand dollars ($20,000) be placed at the disposal of the Minister to enable him to meet expenditure in connection with the survey of the roads between Lake Superior and Red River.

Certified.
(Signed,) W. A. Himsworth,
Assistant Clerk Privy Council.

To the Honorable the Minister of Public Works.

(No. 8,060.)

Red River Settlement, August 28th, 1869.

Sir,—I have the honor to enclose papers as follows, embracing a proposed system of survey and subdivision of Public Lands in this Territory, that is to say :—

(A). Description in detail of the method proposed.

(B). Map on Mercator's projection, illustrating the proposed division into Townships of a part of the Territory.

(C). Plan of a Township, shewing the proposed method of subdivision.

In recommending this system, I have given much time and thought to the subject, and the one submitted I believe to be the best in every way adapted to the Territory.

With regard to the American method, I had the benefit of full detailed information kindly forwarded me by the Honorable Joseph S. Wilson, Commissioner of the U. S. General Land Office, as well as interviews with General Nutting, late Surveyor General, and with Mr. Davidson, the present Surveyor General of Minnesota, as also with other leading and intelligent Americans.

To Mr. Russell, Assistant Commissioner, and to Mr. Devine, Chief of Surveys of the Ontario Department of Crown Lands, I am also indebted for valuable information and suggestions.

It was generally conceded that the American system is faulty in making no appropriation for public roads, which are subsequently taken from the settler out of the nett area of land for which he may actually have paid the Government.

I think, further, that the Townships are unnecessarily small.

In a prairie country, where the facilities of communication are greatly in excess of those in a broken or heavily-wooded country, the Townships may well be larger, thus tending to economy in the administration of municipal affairs.

I have, therefore, made my Townships uniformly to contain sixty-four sections of eight hundred acres each, and with regard to an allowance for roads, have thrown five per cent. additional into the area of each section, making in all 53,760 acres as the area of the Township.

This per centage for roads I conceive to be an abundant provision to meet the wants of the country in the matter of highways.

Mr. Snow, with whom, according to my instructions, I have advised, is strongly in favor of fixed road allowances; the plan submitted, however, I think preferable, as it contributes to simplicity in the surveys, and places the jurisdiction over the location of the highway more fully in the hands of the municipal authorities.

The numbering of the Townships from one uniform base—the southern boundary of the Territory—and the numbering of the ranges of Townships east and west from one principal meridian, is simple, and will therefore be easily understood by all parties.

It will also prevent any possible further confusion in administering the Land Granting Department.

In a country so extensive as this, a reference to the Townships by numbers for the purpose of survey and land granting is in the first instance indispensable.

Names to the several Townships, in accordance with the practice followed in the Western States, will naturally be given subsequently by the settlers themselves.

As regards operations, at the present time, I find myself rather hampered by circumstances.

In the first place, I had proposed, until fully advised as to the system of farm surveys which might be adopted by the Government, to employ the time in surveying the belt of lands granted by the Company, which embraces a strip of two miles in width on each side, and extending up the Red River for the distance of, say forty miles from the mouth, and also along the Assinniboine, in the same way, for many miles.

This, I have hesitated, to go on with at the present time, in consequence of much of the land being under crop; going through which would involve more or less injury to individual settlers, a measure which, in the present temper of the half-breeds is to be deprecated; at the same time, to proceed with Township Surveys at Oak Point and Prairie Portage, on the system submitted, may be to anticipate an approval which may not be confirmed. At the same time, as I do not feel warranted in view of the season fast slipping away in remaining with my staff unemployed, I propose to proceed without unnecessary loss of time to the southern boundary, whence at a distance of ten miles west of Pembina, to project the line laid down on the sketch (B) as the Winnipeg meridian, as far north as Township No. 11, then to project the line easterly between Townships 6 and 7, and lay out the land in the vicinity of Oak Point, by which time, or sooner, I shall no doubt have received your further instructions.

I have again to remark the uneasy feeling which exists in the half-breeds and Indian element with regard to what they conceive to be premature action taken by the Government in proceeding to effect a survey of the lands, without having first extinguished the Indian title, and I beg permission to reiterate the conviction expressed on a former occasion, that this must be the first question of importance dealt with by the Government.

I have, of course, taken every opportunity to assure this element as to the intention

of the Government, to deal honorably and fairly in the matter in question, and shall go on quietly with my work.

Should, however, this feeling be likely to result in any opposition of a character likely to prejudice a settlement fraught with importance to the immediate future of this country, I shall at once cease operations, and await your further orders.

I trust to leave for Pembina, on the 2nd or 3rd proximo, to project the line indicated in a preceding paragraph.

I shall be delayed probably till then, waiting for a flat boat, on which my instruments and baggage are coming down the Red River from Fort Abercrombie.

They were transferred at that point to a boat coming down with goods, the horses of my party having rather given out, in consequence of heavy roads from rains, and also having suffered much from mosquitoes.

One of the teams was further disabled from gravel getting into the feet of one of the horses, and laming him.

I have sent both teams over to Oak Point, to recruit, as Mr. Snow tells me there is an abundance of fine grass and water there.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(Signed,) J. S. Dennis,
Provincial Land Surveyor, in charge of Land Surveys.

The Honorable Wm. McDougall, C.B.,
Minister of Public Works.
Ottawa.

(A.)

Proposed method for the Survey of the Public Land in the North-West Territory.

1. The system to be rectangular, all Townships to be east and west, or north and south.

2. The Townships to number northerly from the 49th parallel, and the ranges of townships to number east and west from a given meridian. This meridian to be drawn from the 49th parallel at a point say ten miles west of Pembina, and to be called the Winnipeg Meridian.

3. The Townships to consist of 64 squares, of 800 acres each, and to contain, in addition, 40 acres, or five per cent in area in each section, as an allowance for public highways.

4. The Townships on the Red and Assinniboine Rivers, where the same have had ranges of farm lots laid out by the Company to be surveyed, the broken sections butting against the rear limits of such ranges, so as to leave the same intact as independent grants.

(Signed,) J. S. Dennis.

(No. 8,069.)

Red River Settlement,
September 1st, 1869.

Honorable Wm. McDougall, C.B.,
Minister of Public Works,
Ottawa.

Sir,—I have the honor to report to you that, in accordance with my letter to you of Saturday last, I have this day despatched Major Wallace to St. Paul, commissioned to purchase those supplies which cannot be obtained in the Settlement, such as pork, beans, &c., for the use of surveying parties till next year.

The Government stock of pork is very low here, and Major Wallace is entrusted by Mr. Snow also to purchase a lot for the use of the men employed in constructing the road to Lake Superior.

I propose to purchase :—

70 barrels pork.

40 bushels beans &c.

1,000 lbs. of pressed vegetables.

To effect this, Major Wallace takes with him my draft upon you for $2,000.

The gentleman named will report his arrival to you by telegraph from St. Cloud, and will be subject to your further orders at St. Paul.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
J. S. Dennis.

(No. 5,403.)

Ottawa, September 22nd, 1869.

Memorandum.—The undersigned has the honor to submit,

That, on the 10th July last, a letter of instructions was sent to Lieut.-Col. Dennis, P.L.S., directing him to proceed to the Red River, for the purpose of selecting the most suitable localities for the survey of Townships for immediate settlement.

That Mr. Dennis, after consulting with the Crown Lands Departments, both in Canada and in the United States, in accordance with the above instructions, has forwarded certain papers embracing a proposed system of surveys and subdivision of public lands in that part of the Dominion.

1. The system to be rectangular. All Townships and sections to be east and west, or north and south.

2. The Townships to number northerly from the 49th Parallel, and the ranges of Townships to number east and west from a given Meridian. This Meridian to be drawn from the 49th Parallel at a point, say 10 miles west of Pembina, and to be called the Winnipeg Meridian.

3. The Townships to consist of 64 squares of 800 acres each ; and to contain, in addition, 40 acres, or five per cent. in area in each section as an allowance for public highways.

4. The Townships on the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, where the same have had ranges of farm lots laid out by the Company, to be surveyed ; the broken sections butting against the rear limits of such ranges, so as to leave the same intact as independent grants. Accompanying which is a map on Mercator's projection, illustrating the proposed division, and a plan of a Township, showing the proposed method of subdivision.

The undersigned now begs to recommend that the above system of surveys and subdivision by Col. Dennis, P.L.S., for the North-Western Territories, may be adopted and approved.

Respectfully submitted,
(Signed,) W. McDougall,
Minister of Public Works.

(No. 8,144.)

Copy *of a Report of a Committee of the Honorable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General in Council on the 23rd September, 1869.*

The Committee have had before them the Report dated 22nd September, 1869, from the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, submitting certain documents received by him from J. Stoughton Dennis, Esq., P.L.S., embracing a system proposed by him for

the survey and sub-division of the Townships in the North-West Territories, and on the recommendation of the Minister of Public Works, they respectfully advise that the system proposed by Colonel Dennis be approved and adopted.

(Certified,) WM. H. LEE,
Clerk Privy Council.

To the Honorable
The Minister of Public Works.

(No. 5,409.)

OTTAWA, September 23rd, 1869.

SIR,—Referring to your letter of the 1st, received 21st instant, on the subject of supplies to be purchased at St. Paul by Major Wallace, for the use of the surveying parties under your charge, and of the men employed under Mr. Snow in the construction of the road to Lake Superior, to the extent of $2,000, the Minister desires to know what portion of this sum will be placed against the road. The accounts must be kept separate.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
F. BRAUN,
Secretary.

Lieut. Col. Dennis, P.L.S.,
Red River Settlement.

(No. 8,333.)

FORT GARRY, RED RIVER SETTLEMENT,
September 28th, 1869.

Honorable WM. McDougall, C.B.,
Minister of Public Works, Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honor to report my return to the Settlement, having yesterday crossed the Assinniboine River with my Meridian line, at a point about 14 miles west of this place.

There has been much bad weather lately, but on the whole, I was able to average five miles per day on the line. The quarter sections and Townships were duly laid off all the way up, and the points marked by posts and mounds erected. I found Mr. Webb, P.L.S., of Brighton, Canada, for whom I wrote from St. Cloud, as reported in my letter of the 6th August, had arrived during my absence. I have, in the meantime, sent him out to help Mr. Hart to continue the meridian, for two or three days, during which time I will organize another party for him and start him, to run the standard parallel of latitude or governing line between Townships 6 and 7, east of the meridian over to Oak Point.

The meridian line I shall continue up to the line between Townships 10 and 11, and thence turn off west and run it west as a standard parallel over to Prairie Portage.

My observations for latitude at Pembina placed the boundary between the Territory and the United States, about 200 feet north of a post for the parallel of 49°, according to the observation some years back of Captain and now General Pope, of the U. S. A.

I projected the parallel of 49° westerly, according to my own observations, for a distance of 10 miles westerly of the Red River, as proposed in my Report of the 28th ultimo, and from thence commenced the meridian line.

I would strongly urge upon the Government the necessity of a Joint Commission without delay, to settle the position of this boundary westerly of the Lake of the Woods.

Such a course is imperatively called for from the fact that the lands in the vicinity of Pembina having been lately surveyed by the United States authorities, I found that although in fixing the northern boundary of his Township, supposed to be the 49° parallel,

the Surveyor had assumed Captain Pope's post to be correct, and had started from it; and I started from a point 204 feet farther north, his line actually crossed mine before I got out the 10 miles; and there are a number of section posts and mounds to the north of my line on what I am satisfied is British Territory.

As the country to the west of Pembina along the river is rapidly settling, it is quite possible that very awkward questions of local jurisdiction may arise which, in the absence of a survey under joint and proper authority to settle the boundary, may create a great deal of trouble.

I would therefore strongly recommend early action in the matter.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
J. S. Dennis.
In charge of Land Surveyors,
Red River Territory.

(No. 5,470.)

Ottawa, October 4th, 1869.

Sir,—I have the honor to inform you that the Government, upon the recommendation of the Minister of Public Works, has approved of the system proposed by you in your Report dated the 28th August last, for the survey and sub-division of Townships in the North-West Territories. You are, therefore, authorized to proceed with the surveys on the plan proposed.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
F. Braun, Secretary.

J. Stoughton Dennis, P.L.S.,
Red River Settlement.

(No. 8,438.)

The Honorable the Minister of Public Works,
Ottawa.

Sir,—I have the honor to state that I have drawn upon you this day, through the Hudson's Bay Company, for One thousand dollars on account of surveys in this Territory. My two parties—one under Mr. Hart, the other under Mr. Webb—are making good progress.

The meridian is now run to Township 10, and Mr. Hart is about commencing to run the parallel of latitude westerly, between Townships 10 and 11. Mr. Webb is at work on the parallel between Townships 6 and 7, and has run that line over east nearly as far as the Red River.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. S. Dennis, P.L.S.,
In Charge of Surveys.

Fort Garry,
9th October, 1869.

(Copy of 5,840.)

Public Works,
Ottawa, 4th December, 1869.

Memorandum.—The undersigned has the honor to report that on the several works

now in progress, for the purpose of opening up communication with the North-West Territory, the total amount expended to the 1st of December, 1869, has been as follows :—

Fort Garry Road	$17,271 62
Surveys, Red River	7,847 88
Lake Superior and Red River Canals (Surveys)	5,386 40
Fort William Road	50,591 97
	$81,097 87

And that of the foregoing sum $80,000 were expended under the authority of Orders in Council.

That the Engineers of the department engaged on these several works are now occupied in drawing up Reports of their operations, and of the amount of work executed.

That the sum of $24,000 is now required to meet further liabilities already incurred on these works.

The undersigned would recommend that the sum of $40,000 be now placed at his disposal to meet the liabilities already incurred, and to proceed further with the works.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed,) HECTOR L. LANGEVIN,
Acting Minister of Public Works.

(No. 8,820.)

COPY *of a Report of a Committee of the Honorable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the 7th December, 1869.*

On a memorandum dated 4th December, 1869, from the Hon. the Acting Minister of Public Works, reporting that on the several works now in progress for the purpose of opening up communication with the North-West Territory, the total amount expended up to the 1st December, 1869, has been as follows :—

Fort Garry Road	$17,271 62
Surveys Red River	7,847 88
Lake Superior and Red River Canals (Surveys)	5,386 40
Fort William Road	50,591 97
	$81,097 87

And that, of the foregoing sum, $80,000 were expended under the authority of Orders in Council.

That the Engineers of the Department engaged on these several works are now occupied in drawing up Reports of their operations, and of the amount of work executed.

That the sum of $24,000 is now required to meet further liabilities already incurred, and to proceed further with the works.

The Committee submit the above recommendation for Your Excellency's approval.

Certified.

WM. H. LEE,
Clerk Privy Council.

To the Honorable the Minister of Public Works.

(No. 6,019.)

OTTAWA, January 11th, 1870.

SIR,—Referring to the communication addressed to you from this Department on the 10th July last, whereby you were instructed to proceed to Fort Garry, for the purpose of selecting the most suitable localities for the survey of Townships for settlement, I am directed by the Honorable the Minister of Public Works to request that, on receipt of this notification, you will return to Ottawa, and report yourself to the Department, bringing with you all official papers and documents bearing on the matters under your charge, in order that you may be in a position to report on the same, and furnish the necessary vouchers, &c.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed,) F. BRAUN,
Secretary.

Lieut.-Col. Dennis, P.L.S., &c., &c.,
Fort Garry, Assinniboine.

(No. 9,233.)

WESTON, January 19th, 1870.

F. Braun, Esq., Secretary
Department of Public Works.

SIR,—Having been requested, by the Honorable Mr. McDougall, to accompany him to Canada from Pembina, your letter of the 11th instant has reached me here; and I shall take an early opportunity of complying with the request contained therein, to report myself to the Department at Ottawa, in connection with the service in the North-West Territory, which was entrusted to me on the 10th July last.

I *had* proposed to attend at the Department as soon as I had sufficiently recovered from lameness caused by an accident met with at Abercrombie on the way down, which has confined me to the house pretty much since my return, but which will, I trust, be sufficiently well to enable me to get about within a week.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
T. S. DENNIS, P.L.S.

(No. 9398.)

MONTREAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY,
OTTAWA, February 4th, 1870.

By Telegraph from Toronto
To F. Braun.

Please to send me a memorandum of accounts drawn by me on the Department.

J. S. DENNIS.

(No. 6,203.)

OTTAWA, 7th February, 1870.

SIR,—In accordance with your request, I beg to enclose herewith a statement of the several amounts paid to your order in connection with surveys North-West Territory.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed,) F. BRAUN,
Secretary.

Lieut.-Col. Dennis, P.L.S., Toronto.

STATEMENT of Drafts paid by Department Public Works on account of J. S. Dennis, in connection with Surveys North-West Territory.

		$ cts.
1869.		
July 30.....	To paid your draft dated 24th July, 1869.....	500 00
August 2.....	,, ,, ,, 2nd August.....	1,000 00
September 20..	,, ,, ,, 1st September.....	2,010 00
October 4.....	,, ,, ,, 31st August.....	1,581 67
November 12..	,, ,, ,, 8th October.....	1,000 00
,, 19..	,, ,, ,, 26th ,, ...	1,000 00
December 9...	,, ,, ,, 1st November.....	1,000 00
1870.		
January 7.....	,, ,, ,, 20th ,, ...	2,000 00
		10,091 67

(No. 6,204.)

OTTAWA, 7th February, 1870.

SIR,—Adverting to your communication, under date the 17th December, 1869, explaining what steps you had taken for providing a residence for the Lieutenant-Governor at Fort Garry, and in connection with your office premises there, I am directed by the Honorable the Minister to enquire whether there is any one in charge of buildings referred to. If so, you will please to state the name of the person, and on what conditions he is in charge.

I am further to inquire whether any portion of the rent of the house and offices in question has been paid.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed,) F. BRAUN,
Secretary.

Lieutenant-Colonel Dennis,
&c., &c., Toronto.

(No. 9,507.)

WESTON, 10th February, 1870.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, making enquiry as to the custody of the buildings taken for Government purposes at Fort Garry, and, in reply, to say :

1. The property known as "Silver Heights" which was leased and fitted up for the occupation of the Lieutenant-Governor, was left in charge of "Duffin" the gardener, who was living there with Mr. John McTavish, at the time of my taking it. He was recommended as trustworthy, and being a good gardener also, I arranged with him to remain till the Governor arrived; the question of any further engagement as well as that of compensation for looking after and taking care of the property in the meantime to be then settled.

Mr. Duffin was kept supplied with provisions from my office up to the first week in December, when Mr. Grant was obliged to leave the place, since when I have reason to believe Mr. John McTavish who represented the Rowand Estate, in letting the property, has looked after him and after the latter also.

Up to the date mentioned, no money had been paid to Mr. Duffin, for his services as caretaker.

The lease of the property having been brought down by Mr. Grant, the same is herewith transmitted. By it the first half-yearly payment of rent thirty pounds sterling, will become due on the fourth proximo.

2. The office, comprising the lower flat and two bed-rooms in the upper flat of a wooden two-storey house, was taken by the year from Mr. Ryder Sarson, proprietor, at the rental of forty-two pounds sterling per annum, payable quarterly. The first payment became due, and was made in the latter end of November, and the second will mature in the latter end of the present month. The premises are in charge of Joseph Crozen and wife, who occupy the lower flat in rear of the office. These people are perfectly trustworthy. Finding it would be indispensable, in view of frequent and occasionally lengthy absences from the office in overlooking the surveys, to have a reliable man in charge, these people having applied to me, and bringing excellent recommendations, I engaged them; and, further, in consequence of its being next to impossible to obtain lodgings and living in the village of Winnipeg, arranged that they should keep house for me. The man himself is disabled from a crippled arm, and the woman has supported her husband and two children for some years by needlework. They were willing to attend upon me and take care of the premises, &c., without wages if I would supply the living for the house, and I made that arrangement with them. They brought their own utensils, furniture, cow, &c.

I am in communication with Mr. Crozen, and have desired him to look closely after the Government property on the premises, in regard to which I submit an approximate list in the margin. The two or three articles of furniture in the list I looked upon as Government property; in the mean time, proposing, in case of my remaining in the country, to have them transferred to my own account.

It is necessary also that I should advise you as to what has become of the two teams which I purchased in St. Paul to take through. These were a span of roans, and a chesnut mare, and black horse. One of the roans was brought through by Mr. McDougall's party, and is now at St. Cloud with the other Government horses purchased by him. The other, I learn, was seized by the French (taken from the stable by an armed party), and is now being ridden about by the insurgent leader, O'Donohoe, as a "charger." The black horse was sent down to Mr. Joseph Monkman's, in the Lower Settlement, for safety, and the chesnut mare was left in charge of Mr. Provencher, and for his use during the winter.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed,) J. S. Dennis.

The Honorable
The Minister of Public Works,
Ottawa.

Memorandum.—At Red River Settlement, this Second day of September, Eighteen hundred and sixty-nine; It is agreed between James McKay, acting for and on behalf of the heirs and representatives of the deceased John James Alexander Rowand, of the one part, and John Stoughton Dennis, of the other part, as follows:—

That the said James McKay hereby agrees to let, and the said J. Stoughton Dennis hereby agrees to take (for the occupation of the Honorable Mr. McDougall), all that dwelling house situate on the west side of the Assinniboine, called Silver Heights, with the appurtenances thereto belonging, including the whole of the lot of land, numbered in the Official Register as 1,258, of six chains frontage, and the adjoining one and a half chains of land, being the lower portion of lot 1,259, with all the buildings on the said lands, on the terms following, namely:—

That the said J. S. Dennis shall have possession given him of the said house, appurtenances, and lands, on the Fourth day of September, Eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, on a lease for two years from that date, at the yearly rent sixty pounds sterling for the first year, and eighty-four pounds sterling for the second year, both payable half-yearly, and the first payment being done on the 4th of March, 1870; but with the option to the said J. S. Dennis of giving up possession of the premises at the end of the first year, and thereby relieving himself from all liability for and in respect of the second year's rent.

That, at his own costs and charges, the said J. S. Dennis shall be at liberty to make such repairs on, or alterations in the dwelling house and premises as he or Mr. McDougall may desire, without having, on the one hand, any claim to re-imbursement from the said James McKay, and without incurring, on the other hand, any liability to the said James McKay for any depreciation which such repairs or alterations may be supposed to cause in the value of the premises.

That, at his own cost and charges, the said J. S. Dennis may erect on the premises any out buildings, such as stables or coach houses, that he or Mr. McDougall may require; and that, on possession of the premises being given up at the end of the first or the second year, as the case may be, the said J. S. Dennis shall be at liberty to remove all such out buildings as he may have put up.

That neither the said J. S. Dennis nor Mr. McDougall shall have any right to sublet the premises.

In Witness whereof, the parties have hereunto, in duplicate, set their hands, on the date first above written.

(Signed,) JAMES McKAY.
J. S. DENNIS.

In presence of
J. S. McTavish.
J. J. Hargrave.

MEMORANDUM.—It is further agreed, that should bells be hung in the house by Mr. Dennis, the same may be removed at the end of the term, without Mr. McKay should decide to pay the expense of fitting them up, and so leave them on the premises.

(Signed,) JAMES McKAY.
J. S. DENNIS.

In presence of
J. S. McTavish.
J. J. Hargrave.

(No. 9,565.)

OTTAWA, 12th February, 1870.

SIR,—I have the honor to report to you on the surveys in the North-West Territory, effected under the instructions which I had the honor to receive from the Department on the 10th July last.

I left Toronto, for Fort Garry, on the 28th of that month, the intermediate time having been spent in making preparations, and arrived in the Red River Settlement, on the 20th of August.

A week later a Report was sent forward, embodying a proposed system of Township surveys for the territory, and in accordance with the course mentioned in that Report, I left Fort Garry, on the 3rd September, to project the principal governing line, known as the "Winnipeg Meridian."

By the 28th September, this line had been carried up to the Assinniboine River, and leaving Mr. Hart, P.L.S., to carry it on with the same men and equipment, I returned to the office, and, in accordance with my Report of the date mentioned, organized a surveying party to be under Mr. Webb, P.L.S., to run the base line between Townships 6 and 7, easterly from the meridian over, to locate a Township at Oak Point.

As regards the strength, rate of pay, &c., of these parties, I beg to refer you to the statement annexed hereto marked (B), I would also call your attention to the tracing enclosed marked (A), intended to illustrate this Report.

After starting Mr. Webb's party at work, I devoted my attention to compiling a map, with the view to submitting the same (so soon as the Governor arrived) to be litho-

graphed, in order to facilitate future surveys, embracing the country between the Lake of the Woods and Fort Ellice, and north from the boundary line 125 miles, shewing the townships projected thereon in accordance with the system approved, the manner in which the convergence of meridians was proposed to be arranged, and the calculations for the same, &c.; I was occupied at this the most of the month of October, and with the aid of Mr. Grant, had it pretty well completed by the 30th, when the political troubles having, a few days previously, broken out, and matters looking serious, I went down to meet and advise with the Honorable Mr. McDougall, at Pembina, as set forth in the Report on this subject, which I have had the honor to-day to address you.

I beg now to describe the operations of Messrs. Hart and Webb during the remainder of the season.

Mr. Hart continued the meridian to Township 11, and then turned west on the parallel of latitude between 10 and 11, with the view of projecting the same over to Prairie Portage Settlement, in order to locate the latter and select the site of one or two Townships; but at the distance of between three and four miles, his line struck the easterly shore of Shoal Lake. He then, in accordance with instructions, returned on the meridian to the southerly angle of township 10, and ran the line between Townships 10 and 9, westerly through the first range, then north on a true meridian upon the line between ranges 1 and 2 west, trusting on it to clear Shoal Lake, in which, however, he was mistaken, as the line struck the south-west shore of that lake about six or seven miles up, and it became necessary to return again and continue the base between Townships 9 and 10 westerly across another range. The party were engaged on this line, and had got pretty well across the Township, when the outbreak referred to having occurred, desiring to have Mr. Hart near at hand, in the event of his operations being interfered with, and also wishing to use Mr. Hallett's services as guide, I instructed him to return and occupy the remainder of the season in running out the exterior lines of the Townships lying between the meridian and the Red River, north of Township 8; after which time, it was presumed the winter frost would prevent the further prosecution of Township work, and he was then to proceed with a detailed survey of the lower settlement, that is to say, the part inhabited by the English and Scotch. I should here state, that I had previously explained the object of such survey to the people, that the survey was not to disturb boundaries or possession, but to ascertain each man's actual occupation, and make a plan thereof, so that the Government would be in a position at the earliest possible date, to carry out their intention to confirm by Government deeds all *bonâ fide* occupants of land.

The English-speaking people appeared to understand and appreciate the necessity for the measure, and the boon it would be to have their titles perfected, and shewed every facility to the surveyors employed at the work.

I gave strict orders, however, not to survey in that part of the settlement occupied by the French half-breeds, as although I had, as early as the day after my arrival from Canada, on the 21st August, called on the dignitaries of the Roman Catholic Church, at the Palace of St. Boniface, on which occasion I saw "Père Tissot," "Père Allard," and other priests, and explained the same thing to them, and those gentlemen had also expressed themselves most favorably towards the measure, and promised that they would explain the same to their people, and recommend them not to throw any difficulty whatever in the way of these necessary surveys being effected; still, as the outbreak occurred a few weeks after, and I had every desire to avoid any further possible cause of offence to that party, I gave the orders above, and, to my knowledge, they were not departed from by either of the gentlemen employed.

Captain Webb was stopped in his surveying operations by a party of men headed by Louis Riel, on the 11th of October, having projected the base line mentioned easterly from the meridian to within about three miles of the Red River, and finding there was no prospect of matters being arranged, so that he could continue his work on that line, his party was withdrawn, under instructions to run the exterior lines of Townships north of the Assinniboine and east of the meridian to the Red River, and to complete the

same up to connect with the lines being run by Mr. Hart, and then to go on with the survey of the settlement among the English (speaking) settlers along the Assinniboine.

There was no further opposition offered, or objection expressed, to the surveys, and, with the exception that towards the close of the work, in the end of November, severe frost interfered somewhat with throwing up the section mounds, the projection on the ground of the Township exterior mentioned was completed in a satisfactory manner, and the parties were making fair progress with the work allotted them in the Scotch and English settlements, when, on my return there on the 1st December, having been sent in with the special commission from Mr. McDougall, I found it necessary to utilize the gentlemen composing the parties who happened, without a single exception, to have taken certificates in the military school, in organizing a force with which to endeavour to restore order in the settlement.

They were accordingly withdrawn on the 2nd December, and Mr. Hart and party were brought to the Stone Fort, and Capt. Webb and party sent up to concert and organize companies at Prairie Portage. They were severally appointed to active duties, which they faithfully and efficiently discharged till the 11th of that month, when further proceedings, under Mr. McDougall's commission, for the reasons fully set forth in my Report under that commission now in the hands of the Government having been stayed, I gave them instructions to take up again and proceed with their surveys.

I may say that, with a view to economy, the parties had been reduced after finishing the Township lines, by discharging all the horses and carts, and limiting the strength of the party in each case to the surveyor, two chainmen, two flagmen, and two axe and pack-men—six in all.

It was found much more convenient also, for the winter season, to get subsistence in the farmhouses from week to week. The expense of living for the party, after paying board, was much less than having a cook, and providing their own supplies.

Of course, this system could only be carried on while in a continuous and friendly settlement.

I was in hopes, not having heard anything to the contrary till the 25th ultimo, that Messrs. Hart and Webb had been allowed to continue the work respectively allotted to them; but it will be seen by the letters of M. D. A. Grant and Capt. Webb, respectively marked (C) and (D), sent herewith, that they have not been able to proceed with the surveys, owing to a fear among the people where they were, that the same might bring down upon them the animosity of the French party at Fort Garry.

Mr. Grant reports that it was Mr. Hart's intention to make his way across to Fort William, should he do so, and I have little doubt he is now on the way the results will be valuable to the Government, as he will probably come as nearly straight as practicable across country, and, in such case, will accumulate much valuable information regarding a section which possesses a peculiar interest just at the present time.

Mr. Webb is still at Prairie Portage with his party; and I hope, now that matters are fortunately taking a favorable turn at Fort Garry, and are likely to result in peace at an early day, opposition to his proceeding with his work may, ere now, have been withdrawn.

Deeming it essential for future reference to have tracings made without delay of the maps in the office of the Hudson's Bay Company, at Fort Garry, illustrating the land grants, some of which maps are in a very dilapidated condition; and also to obtain a copy of the Register, a simple entry in which (sometimes in pencil) appears to have been the only record made, in any way, of grants made to parties, I employed Mr. D. Codd, a surveying pupil of Mr. Snow, and an excellent draftsman, for the purpose; his wages to be two dollars a day, or sixty dollars per month, without allowances. Mr. Codd has completed the tracings, and was getting on well with the Register, having been at work in all some five or six weeks, when the insurgents in Fort Garry seized his work and turned him out.

The following will approximate closely to the amount of work effected up to this date, that is to say:—

Meridianal lines, and east and west Township exteriors, drawn on the ground, and marked by posts and mounds throughout, at every quarter section..... 182 miles.

Survey of settled farms on west side of Red River and below parish of St. John's, and up the Assinniboine on the north side between Fort Garry and Silver Heights (or a little beyond the latter, near Sturgeon Creek), ascertaining the *present actual boundaries (but making no change whatever)* and position of buildings, situation of roads, and traverse of river in front ..... 20,000 acres.

Drafting.

1. Made one map, large scale, embracing country from Lake of the Woods to Fort Ellice, being the map hereinbefore described.

2. Prepared a plan on scale of 60 chains to an inch, bringing in the Hudson's Bay Company's Grants on Red River and the Assinniboine, as copied from their maps, and shewing where the Township exteriors, according to the system decided on, will intersect the same.

3. One finished Township plan, on scale of 40 chains to the inch.

4. Two finished tracings of the Hudson's Bay maps, shewing the grants so far recorded.

I have no reason to doubt that the above plans, and others papers, as also the instruments left in my office will be forthcoming. I have not heard of the insurgents taking anything from the premises, excepting in November a guard was sent, who took away three rifles, private property, and latterly one of the Government horses was taken out of the stable. In connection with this subject, I enclose a letter received yesterday from Mr. Crozen, the man in charge of the premises.

Upon the subject of accounts, I have preferred to address you in a separate letter of this date.

I have now to offer a few remarks as to the character of the country, so far as the same has fallen under my personal observation. As regards the points at which it will be desirable to lay out the first Townships "Oak Point" and "Prairie Portage," will undoubtedly challenge attention. They are both very much thought of by those who are on the lookout for farming lands, and two Townships at the former and three or four at the latter, including part of the "White Mud River" locality, should be the first lands laid out for settlement.

Independently, however, of these, I would say the whole valley of Red River, say 30 miles on each side of the stream, is well adapted for settlement. There, undoubtedly, are places where the soil partakes of a salty character, and will not be good for grain; on the other hand, the grass is abundant and nutritious, and such description of lands will be thrown into larger farms for cattle raising. On the east side the country is better watered and timbered than on the west; still, on the latter, along the rivers "Marais," "Gratior," "Des Iles de Bois," and River Salé, are many large and very attractive localities for farming.

After crossing the Assinniboine, say in Townships 8, 9 and 10, on the meridian, and extending east to Red River, and west and north-west around and between Shoal Lake and Manitoba, the country is a very good one for grazing purposes; but in consequence of the prevalence of marsh hay lands, and the existence very frequently of too much salt in the higher lands or ridges between swales or low meadows, it is not likely to be sought for, for general farming. For cattle raising, it is admirably adapted. Messrs. Boyd and Inkster have a cattle station just west of the meridian in Section 16, Tp. 9—1, Range west, and I was delighted and astonished to come across a drove of their cattle on the prairie, two or three miles from there, containing between 200 and 300 head, and all or nearly all good beef.

In point of fact, I may say, in a few words, that I saw no country within the Territory that was not valuable either for general farming or for grazing purposes.

My prediction in writing you on the 21st August last, as to the harvest, was fully borne out; reliable men in the settlement have told me that the average yield of wheat was over 40 bushels—even 50 bushels to the acre has been frequent from last year's crop. The soil of the Red River and Assinniboine Valleys, and which seems to me to be a calcareous clayey loam, is beyond all odds, the *richest* soil I ever saw.

Doubtless, with order and good government established in the Territory, an immense tide of emigration will set in, and I am sanguine that with a liberal land policy and efficient emigration arrangements, that country will have irresistible claims to a very large share of the classes in Europe, who have, for years, been seeking to make a home in the Western States.

I sincerly regret that the political disturbances which have existed in the settlement since October should have operated to prevent the surveys from progressing; had it been otherwise, the amount of work done, and the more complete manner in which I should have been able to report, would, doubtless, have been more satisfactory.

Under the circumstances, which were peculiar and exceptional, and with the bringing about of which I had nothing whatever to do, I can only ask your consideration.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed,) J. S. Dennis, P.L.S.

The Honorable
The Minister of Public Works,
Ottawa.

(B.)

Mr. Hart's Party.

Names.	Capacities.	Horses, Supplies, and rate per day.	Carts, Supplies, and rate per day.	Total rate per day.	Remarks.
				$ cts.	
Milner Hart.....	P. L. Surveyor	.....	.....	4 00	Pay commenced July 27th.
C. W. Boulton ...	Chainman	.....	.....	1 00	,, September 3rd.
J. D. Mulkins....	Chainman	.....	.....	1 00	,, ,,
Wm. Durie.....	Flagman	.....	.....	1 00	,, ,,
Wm. Dow.....	Flagman	.....	.....	1 00	,, ,,
Francis Sauvè....	Camp cook	.....	.....	1 00	This man was provided by Mr. James McKay, who receives 75 cts. per day of his wages, the other 25 cts. being extra pay to the man himself as cook.
Isaac Ledoux	Driver	.....	.....	0 75	W. McKay's man, and who receives wages.
E. Vermette.....	Driver	2 at 75 cts. each.	includng the carts	1 50	For 2 horses and carts.
				0 75	For wages.
Wm. Hallett	Guide and Interpreter	1 ,,	includng the carts	0 75	For horses and carts.
				1 66	For wages, at $50 per month.
* James McKay ..	.....	3 at 75 cts. each.	horse and cart	2 25	This amount, with $1.50, F. Sauvè's and J. Ledoux's wages make daily rate to J. McKay, $3.75.

* Mr. McKay did not belong to the party, having only provided F. Sauvè and J. Ledoux, his own hired men, together with three horses and carts.

Mr. Webb's Party.

A. C. Webb	P. L. Surveyor	.....	.....	4 00	Not having data at hand, cannot say exactly ; but think Mr. Webb's engagement dates from about 12th August.
W. A. Fanner	Chainman	.....	.....	1 00	Pay commenced October 4th.
G. Newcomb	Chainman	.....	.....	1 00	,, ,,
C. M. Hamilton ..	Flagman	.....	.....	1 00	,, ,,
N. Marion.....	Flagman	.....	.....	1 00	,, ,,
P. Vallette	Driver and camp cook	.....	.....	1 00	Of this dollar 25 cts. go to Vallette, and 75 cts. to Mr. Dease.
A. Delorme.....	Driver and axeman	.....	.....	0 75	Mr. Dease receives this man's wages.
Jos. Delorme	,,	.....	.....	0 75	,, ,,
G. La Fournaise ..	,,	.....	.....	0 75	,, ,,
W. La Fournaise..	,,	.....	.....	0 75	,, ,,
* Wm. Dease.....	.....	Hors's 6 at 75 cs each	includng carts ..	4 50	Mr. Dease furnished 5 men next above his name, and his total daily pay is $8.25.

* Mr. Dease did not personally belong to Mr. Webb's party, but in a similar way to Mr. McKay above, furnished a number of horses and carts—six in all—together with five men. The carts are required in Prairie Surveys, for transport of water, wood, camp equipage, provisions, &c.

Note 1.—In reference to the employment of a guide and interpreter, Governor McTavish strongly recommended, as a measure of policy, that one be attached to each surveying party, and approved of the rate of pay above. The gentleman to whom the offer was made, for Mr. Webb's party—Mr. Goulet—declined it, so none was appointed.

2.—The parties were never any stronger than above, there were a few changes made subsequently, however, by substitution of men. (See accounts.)

(Signed,) J. S. Dennis.